

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 March 2005 (17.03.2005)

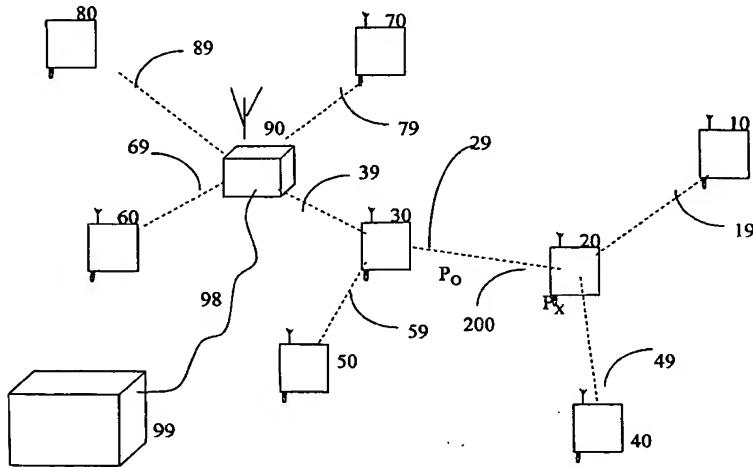
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/025147 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 12/56, 12/28**
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/GB2004/003510**
- (22) International Filing Date: 13 August 2004 (13.08.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 0321096.0 9 September 2003 (09.09.2003) GB
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,

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(54) Title: HIERARCHICAL ROUTING IN AD-HOC NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: A number of data collection devices (10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80) are free to move relative to each other through their environment, collecting data from their environment. They form an ad hoc wireless network (19, 29, 39, 49, etc) in which data collected by a device (20) (either by its own sensors (23), or relayed from another device (10)) is transmitted to a destination (90) either directly or by means of one or more other devices (30). The destination (90) collects data collected by the mobile terminals (10, 20, 30 etc) for subsequent processing. The wireless links (19, 29, 39 etc) between them have to re-arranged in order to provide the optimum network. Each device (20, 30) defines a scalar status value determined by factors including remaining battery life and amount of data in the buffer. The devices exchange information about their status values. Each device will only forward payload data to other devices having lower status values than its own.



SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

— *with international search report*